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REMARKS

Claims 2-6, as amended, remain herein. Claims 8-13 remain herein but are presently withdrawn from consideration.

Minor, editorial changes and correction of antecedent bases have been made in claims 2-6. Also, claim 4 has been amended to recite orientation of the wind receiver to apply force to the inertial arm in a direction away from engagement with the actuator for maintaining the inertial arm in a released state. See applicants' specification, page 31, lines 15-23.

The specification has been edited to correct a typographical error.

1. The finality of the restriction requirement is acknowledged.

2. Claims 2-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Boutaghou U.S. Patent application 2002/0054455 and Mastache U.S. Patent 5,528,437.

The presently claimed disk drive system includes an actuator having a head arm mounted with a slider having a head element, and an inertial arm rotatably supported for engaging the actuator when the head arm is in or near a parking position and releasing the engagement with the actuator when the head arm is in or near a position close to the disk recording medium. This arrangement is nowhere disclosed or suggested in the cited references.

The Office Action admits that Boutaghou '455 does not disclose an inertial arm and actuator having a balanced mass with respect to respective centers of rotation, and cites Mastache '437 as allegedly teaching same. Mastache '437 discloses rotary actuator arm assembly 5 located in its parked position with transducer 5c in contact with disk 3a in a landing zone 3a1 adjacent disk hub 3b. That is, when the arm is located in the parked position shown in Mastache '437, Fig. 1, (column 4, lines 42-43) or in the position apart from its parked position shown in Mastache '437, Fig. 3, engagement (i.e., contact) is retained between latch arm 9a2 of inertia latch 9 corresponding to applicants' inertial arm of claim 2, and torque

arm 5e of an actuator arm assembly corresponding to applicants' actuator of claim 2. In such position apart from its parked position, wherein data is read from or written to the outermost data region of a medium, such read/write actions are potentially disturbed by the latch arm and not performed properly. Furthermore, as more clearly shown in Mastache '437, Fig. 2, since keeper 9a4 is located on one side of inertia latch 9, it is necessary to continuously apply electrical power to the latch in order to maintain the location of control arm 9a3 on that side.

Thus, when the head arm is in or near a position close to the disk recording medium (i.e., not in or near a parking position), its engagement is not released from the actuator, contrary to applicants' claims 1 and 4, i.e., Mastache '437 does not disclose or suggest a latch mechanism that cannot be disturbed when nearby data is read or written, because engagement is released, i.e., Mastache '437 does not disclose or suggest a rotatably supported inertial arm for engaging the actuator when the head arm is in or near a parking position and for "releasing the engagement" with the actuator when the head

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arm is in or near a position close to the disk recording medium, as recited in applicants' claim 1.

Regarding claim 4, the presently claimed disk drive system further includes a rotatably supported inertial arm for engaging the actuator when the head arm is in or near the parking position, and for releasing engagement with the actuator when the head arm is in or near a position close to the disk recording medium, and having a wind receiver for receiving a force of air flow produced by rotation of the disk recording medium, the wind receiver oriented for applying such force to the inertial arm in a direction away from engagement with the actuator for maintaining the inertial arm in a released state. This arrangement is nowhere disclosed or suggested in the cited references.

Mastache '437, column 1, lines 32-38, describes air vanes located adjacent to the disk to obtain a "releasing force" of sufficient magnitude to release the latch element. However, instead of releasing, applicants' wind receiver operates to hold a position of an inertial arm away from engagement, and thereby position the arm so that secure engagement is obtained when

desired by operation of an engaging part of the coil arm and the inertial arm. Under the action of applicants' wind receiver, inertial arm 7 first is energized (without operation of the wind receiver) to move in a clockwise direction, and its position is defined by casing 10, as viewed in applicants' Fig. 8. Then, after being initially moved in a counterclockwise direction by an energizing means, the force from the wind receiver applied to the inertial arm in a direction away from engagement with the actuator maintains the inertial arm in a released state. Accordingly, applicants' wind receiver does not apply a releasing force of sufficient magnitude to "release" the latch element, as described by Mastache '437, column 1, lines 32-38, but instead, maintains the inertial arm in a release state, after it has been released by the energizing means. Mastache '437 does not disclose or suggest a wind receiver for receiving a force of air flow produced by rotation of the disk recording medium, the force being applied to the inertial arm in a direction away from engagement with the actuator for maintaining the inertial arm in a released state, as recited in applicants' claim 4.

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For the foregoing reasons, neither Boutaghou '455 nor Mastache '437 contains any teaching, suggestion, reason, motivation or incentive that would have led one of ordinary skill in the art to applicants' claimed invention. Nor is there any disclosure or teaching in either of these references that would have suggested the desirability of combining any portions thereof effectively to anticipate or suggest applicants' presently claimed invention. Claim 3, which depends from claim 2, is allowable for the same reasons explained herein for claim 2, and claims 5 and 6, which depend from claim 4, are allowable for the same reasons explained herein for claim 4. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

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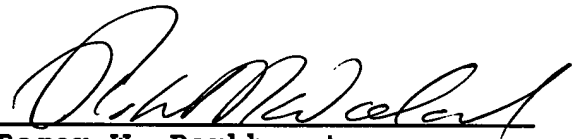
All claims 2-6 are now proper in form and patentably distinguished over all grounds of rejection stated in the Office Action. Accordingly, allowance of all claims 2-6 is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner deem that any further action by the applicants would be desirable to place this application in even better condition for issue, the Examiner is requested to telephone applicants' undersigned representatives.

Respectfully submitted,

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